

# RECLAMATION

## *Managing Water in the West*

### MT DROUGHT ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

### RESERVOIR AND RIVER OPERATIONS

July 27, 2006



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## *Managing Water in the West*

### Lima Reservoir

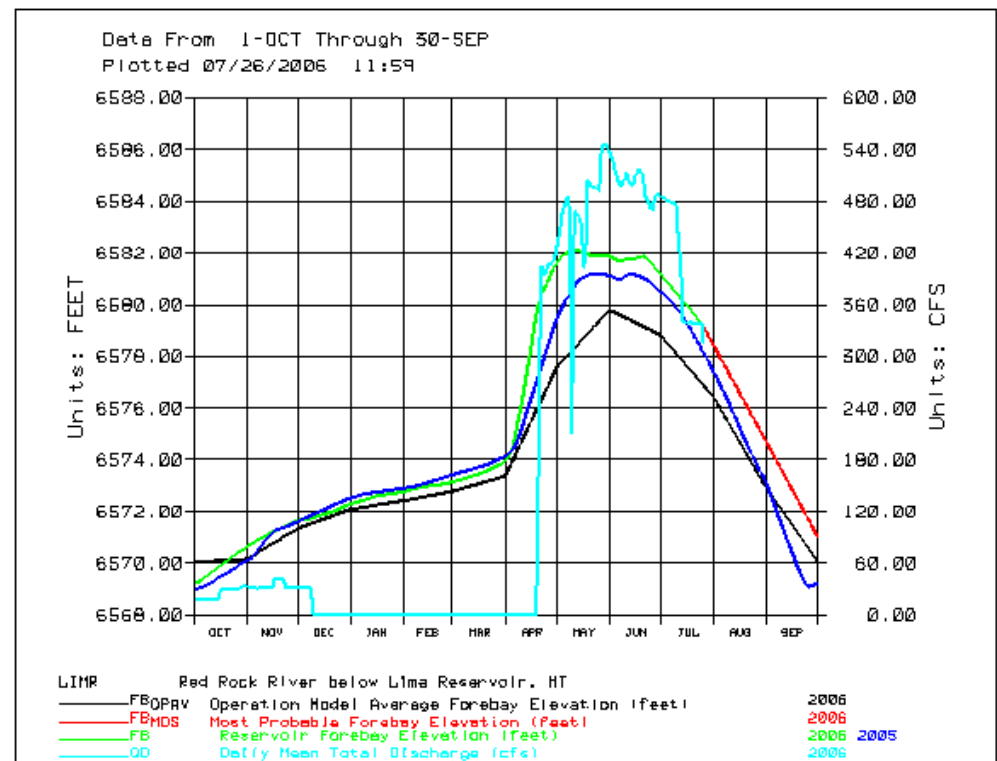
May-June inflow has been above normal

July inflow is above normal

Storage @ 119% of average

Reservoir is slowly declining to meet irrigation demands

Water supply outlook is much improved over last year and water users are expected to receive a full water supply in 2006



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## *Managing Water in the West*

### Clark Canyon Reservoir

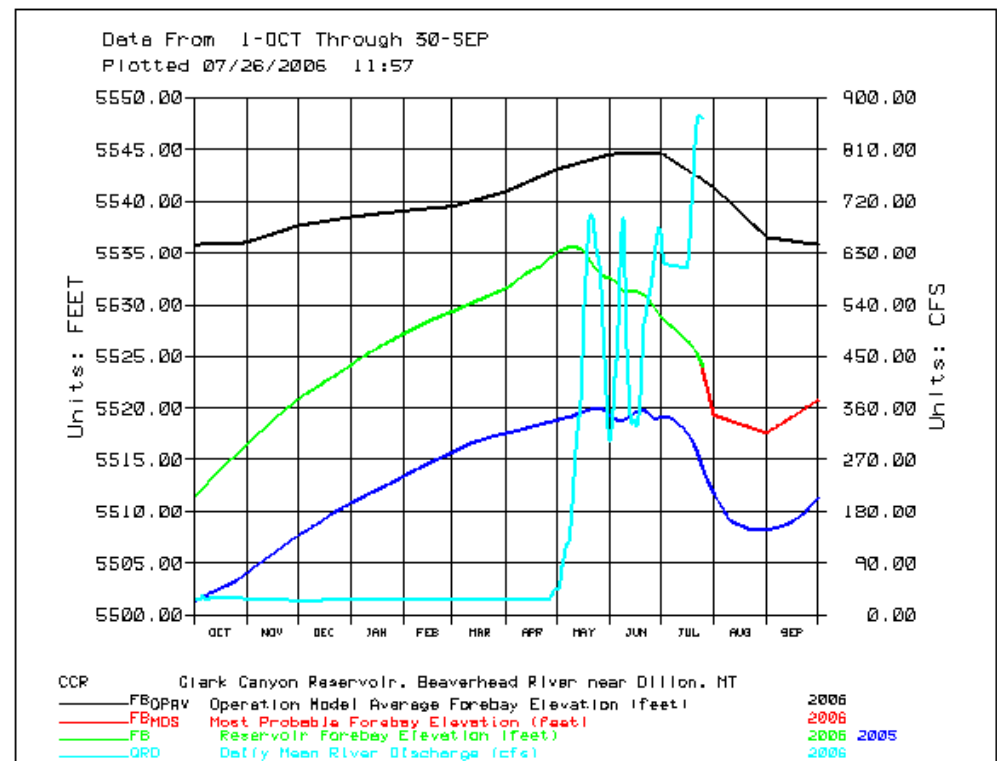
May-June inflow was 44% of average

July inflow is 73% of average

Storage @ 79,052 af (51% of average and 9.6 ft or 27,700 af higher than last year)

Releases increased to 860 cfs to meet irrigation demands

Water supply outlook is much better than in past recent years and water users are expected to receive full water supplies in 2006



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### Hebgen Reservoir

May-June inflow was 110% of average

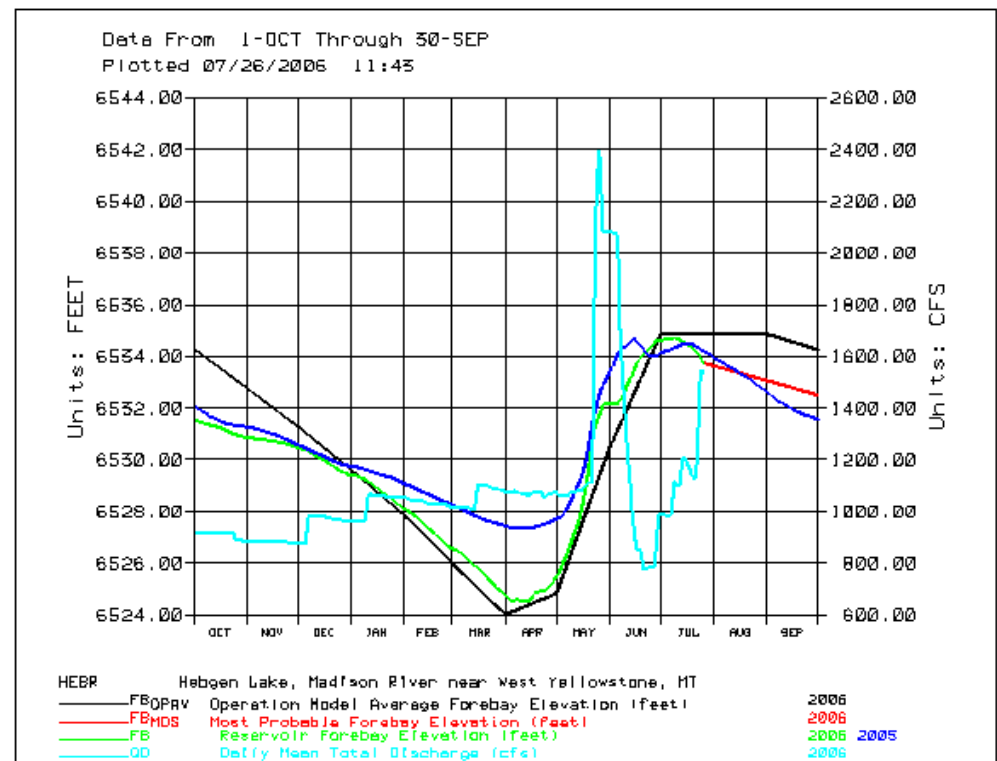
July inflow has dropped to about 90% of average

Storage @ 96% of average and about 1.0 below full pool.

Currently releasing 1,535 cfs to the Madison River

Pulse flows have been implemented to control river temperatures

Water supply outlook is good



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### Canyon Ferry Reservoir

May-June inflow was 85% of average

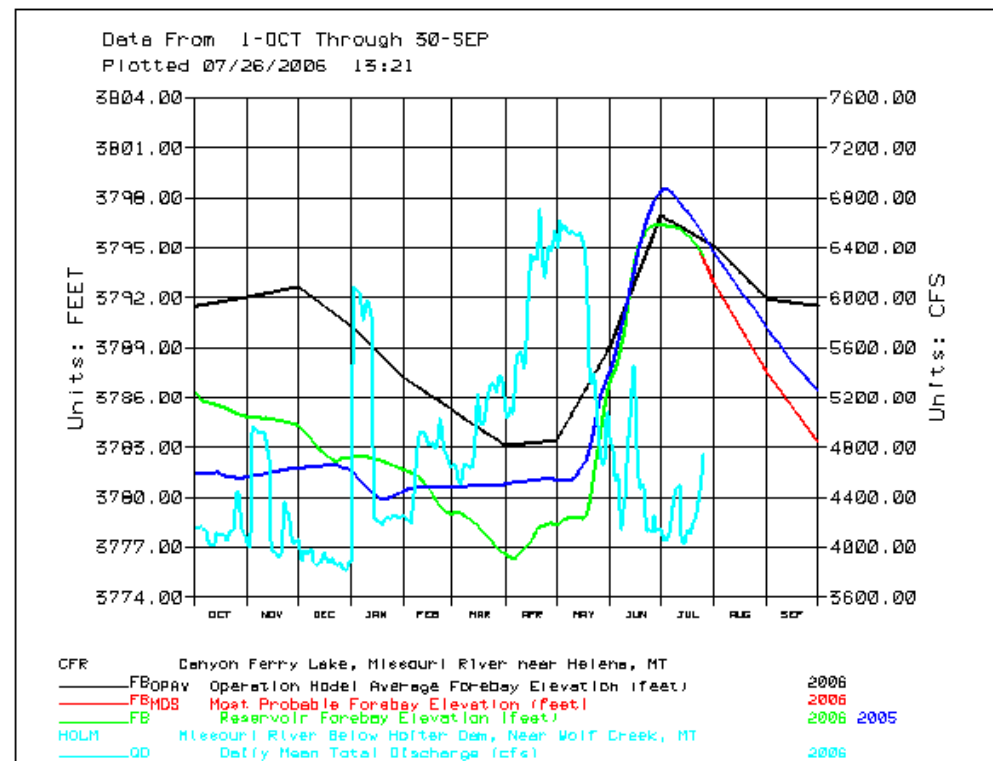
July inflow is 49% of average

Storage @ 98% of average and 1.4 ft lower than last year

Releases being maintained at rates (4,100 cfs or higher below Holter Dam)

Fall releases may need to be decreased to 3,000 cfs to conserve storage for next year

Water supply outlook has diminished



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### Gibson Reservoir

May-June inflow was 76% of average

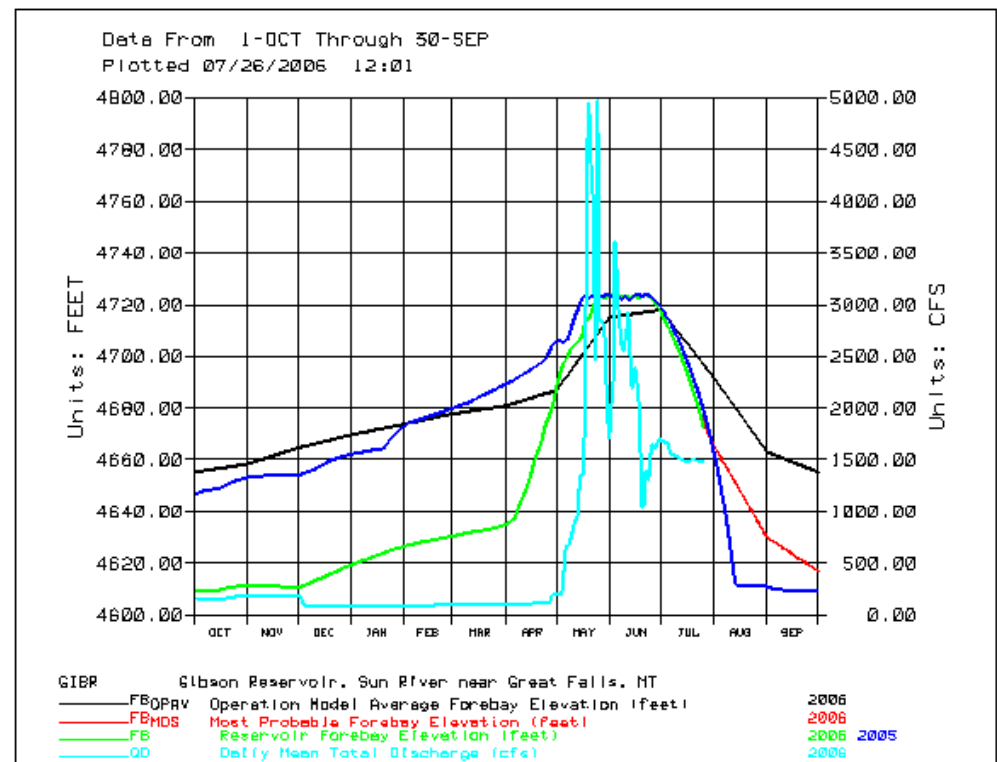
July inflow is 53% of average

Storage @ 64% of average and 8.7 ft or 7,600 af lower than last year

Total release from Gibson is being maintained at 1,490 cfs with 150 cfs released to the Sun River

Releases are being adjusted to meet the irrigation demands

Even though reservoirs were full if below normal precipitation continues, water users will experience water shortages later this summer



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### Tiber Reservoir

May-June inflow was 62% of average

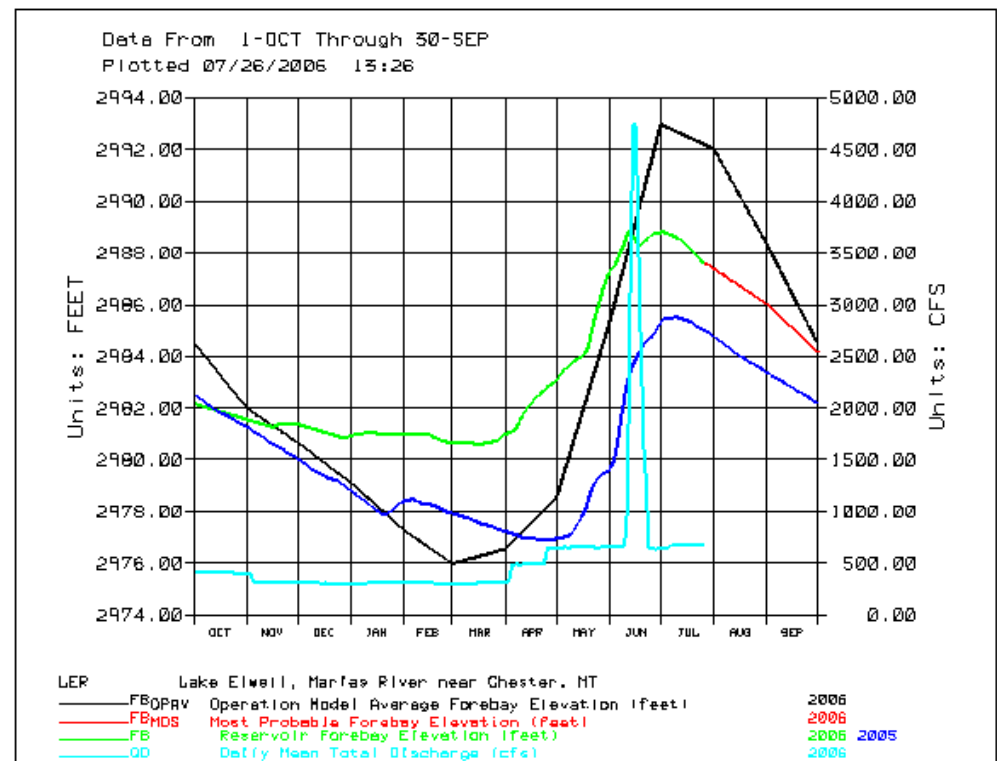
July inflow is 31% of average

Storage @ 100% of average and 2.6 ft higher than last year

Currently releasing 670 cfs to the Marias River, near full powerplant capacity, and plan to maintain this rate through the fall

Plan to evacuate storage to near the normal level by fall

Water supply outlook is good



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### Lake Sherburne

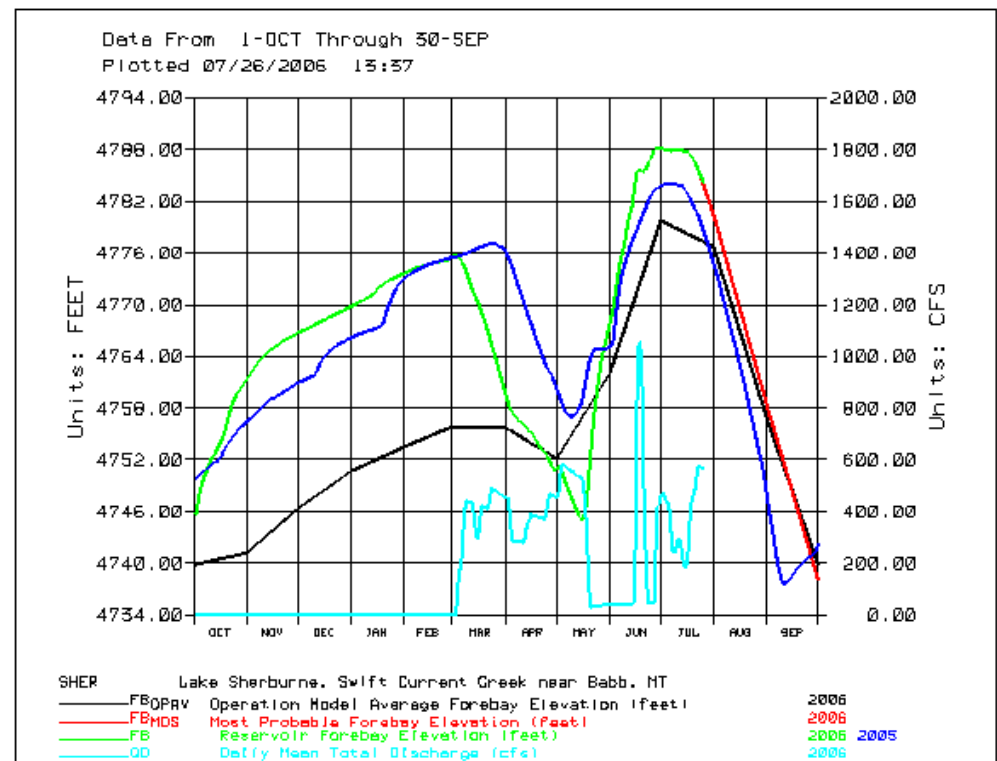
May-June inflow was 111% of average

July inflow is 80% of average

Storage @ 122 percent of average and 5.0 feet or 5,900 af higher than last year

Releases from Lake Sherburne are 565 cfs and we are currently diverting 585 cfs from St. Mary River Basin to Milk River Basin

Water supply outlook for the Milk River Project is good



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### Fresno Reservoir

May-June inflow was 98% of average

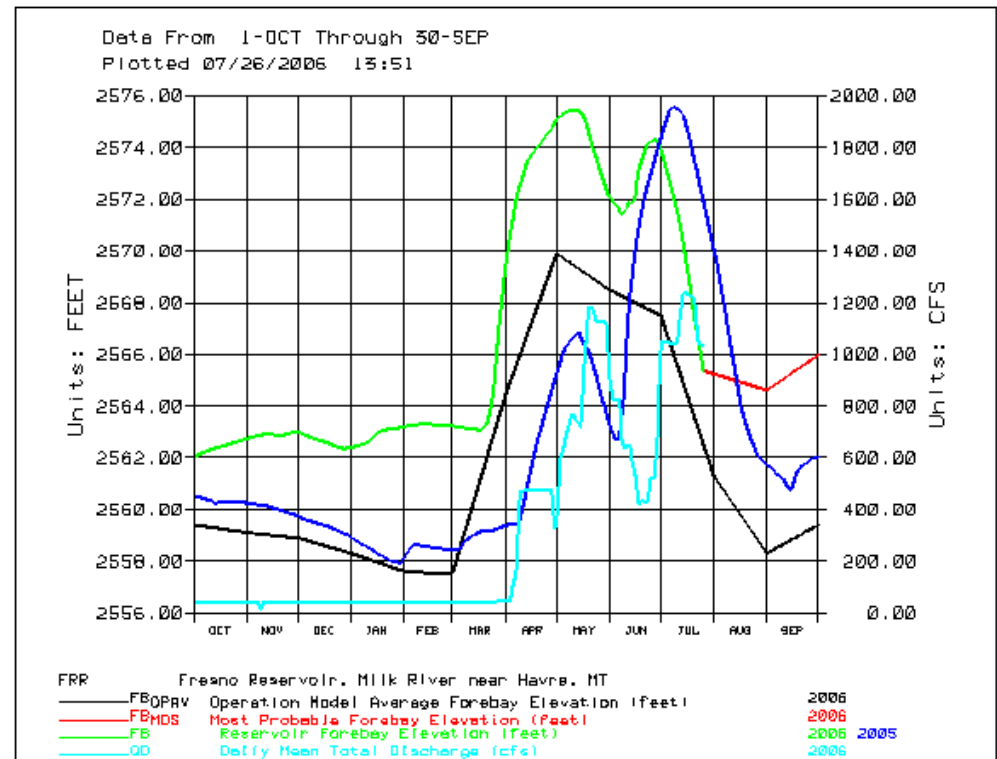
July inflow is 80% of average

Currently diverting 585 cfs from St. Mary Basin to Milk River

Storage @ 117% of average and 6.8 ft or 24,600 af lower than last year

Releases maintained at 1,035 cfs to meet irrigation demands

Water supply outlook is good and water users are expected to receive a full water supply



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### Bighorn Lake

#### (Yellowtail Reservoir)

May-June inflow was 50% of average

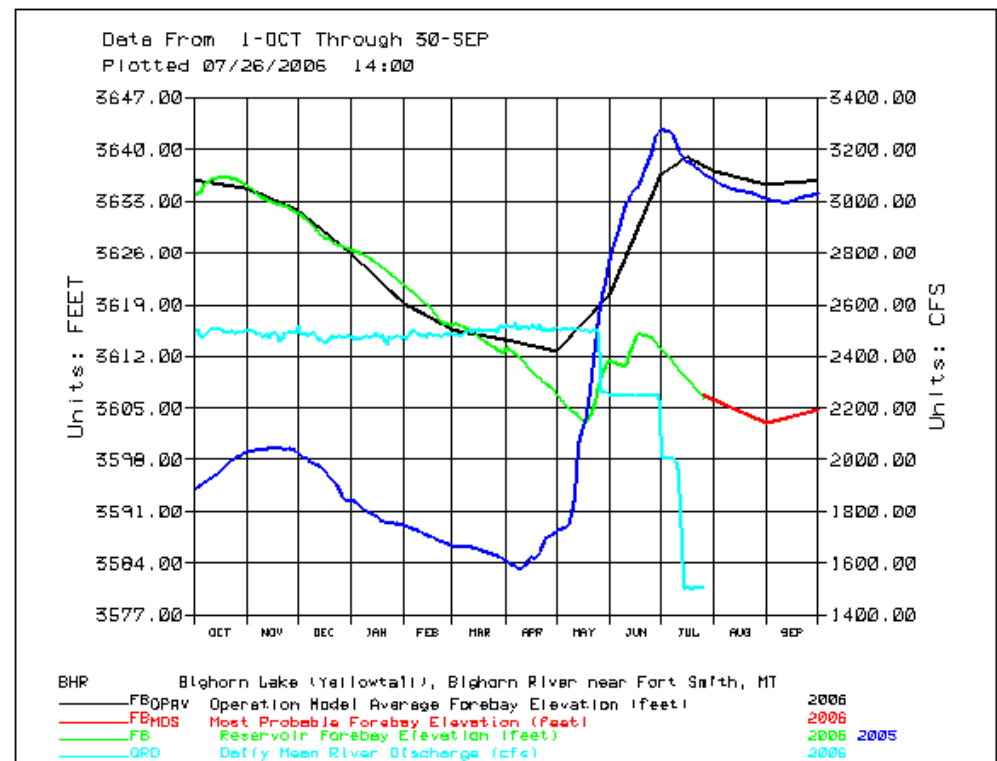
July inflow is 25% of average

Storage @ 75% of average and 30.5 feet lower than last year

Releases have been reduced to 1,500 cfs, 1,000 cfs below the minimum desired flow of 2,500 cfs

Water supply looking poor

Bighorn Lake did not fill and only increased 11.7 feet this spring



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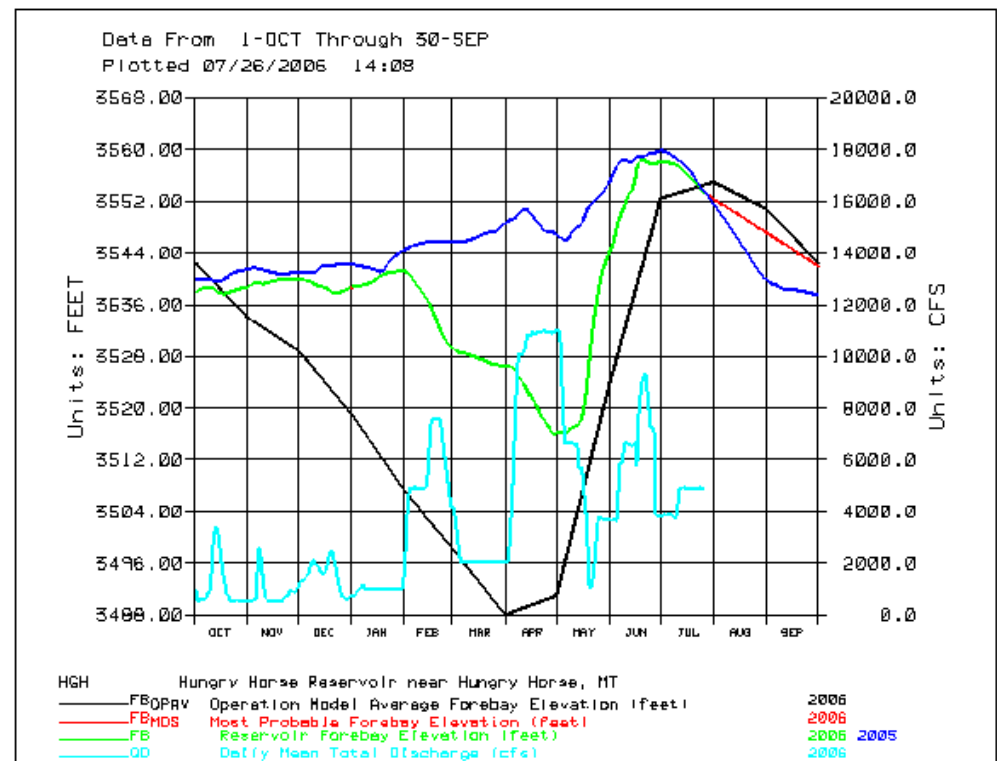
### Hungry Horse Reservoir

Inflows are below average

Storage @ 99% of average

Releasing 4,900 cfs to river

Operations were successful in filling Hungry Horse and conservative releases will continue



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### Summary of Reservoir Conditions

May-June inflows to Reclamation reservoirs were well below normal

Normal precipitation has not occurred during June & July

Reservoir storages vary from 51% of average @ Clark Canyon to 122% of average at Lake Sherburne

Most Reclamation water users will receive a full water supply this year with exception of Sun River watershed

Areas of most concern is the Beaverhead and Bighorn River Basins



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